

I am appalled by Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air a highly biased and inaccurate anti-Kerry "documentary" only days before the election. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation, and threatens our democracy. This is a lot more dangerous than Janet Jackson's "wardrobe malfunction." I demand that the FCC take action.

Normally, when large companies control the airwaves, we typically get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. In this case, however, the shareholders of SBC are being exploited by the unscrupulous Smith's (David and Robert) who run this company, and have seen its stock decline from \$15 per share in May to \$7 per share this week. Since Robert E. Smith has been selling his stock, it would seem they are also gutting the company, and using its media control to unfairly influence the election, and letting the stockholders pick up the tab. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. In this case, even the stockholder's interest is being disserved.

Sinclair's unlawful and unethical actions show why the FCC needs to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you.